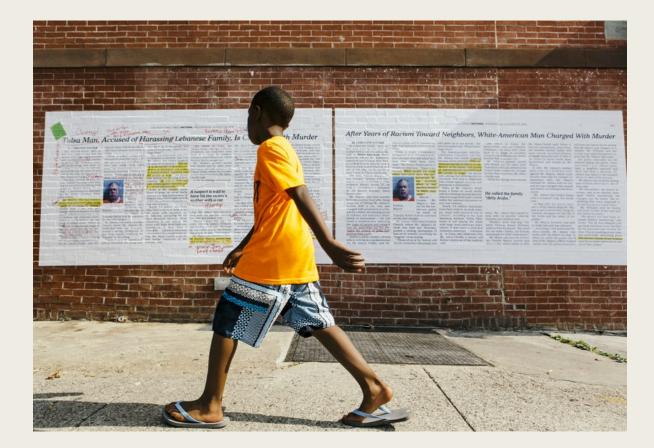
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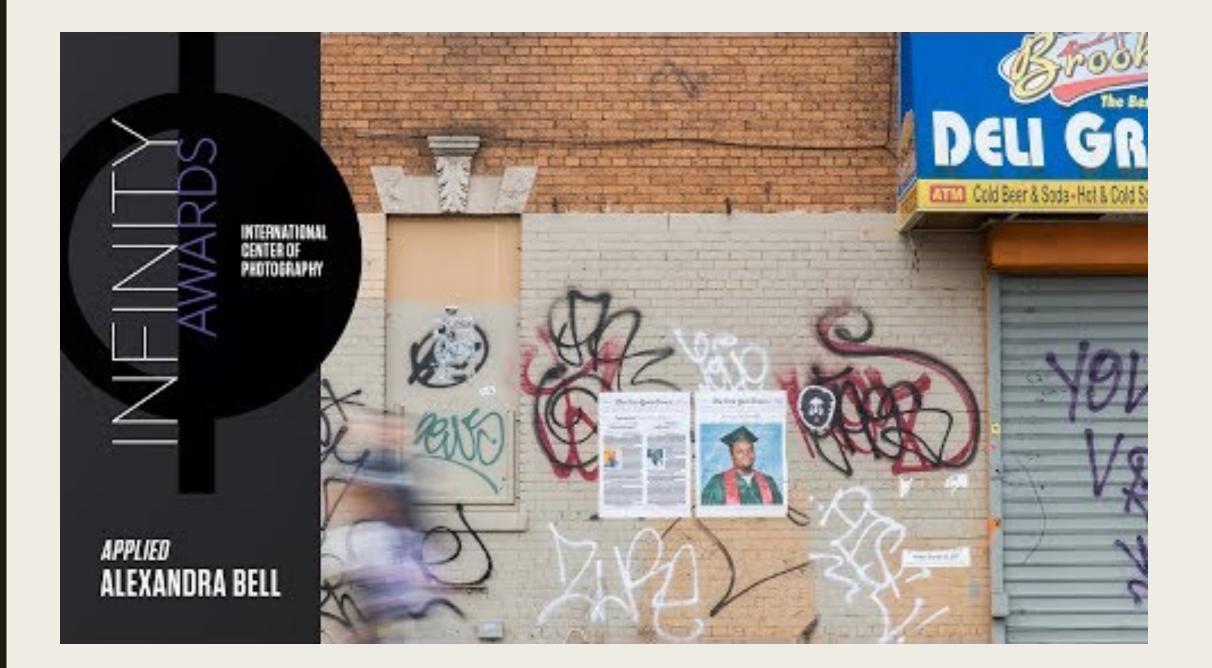
Amanda Leon

The Radical Edits of Alexandra Bell

"If I felt like the revolution was me scratching out articles and putting up posters, I'd have *been* done it," she says. "I'm interested in the conversation."

- Alexandra Bell







Ciudadanos de la comunidad LGBT permanecen atrapados en el Aeropuerto de Amsterdam



HAVANA - Victor Manuel Dueñas hugged his mom, his partner and his partner's mother at the Jose Marti International Airport in Havana or Saturday. The 23-year-old human rights activis boarded a flight to Russia heartbroken but honeful The flight to Moscow had a layover at the

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol where Dueñas, his cousin Onasis Torres, who is gay, and five others emained Monday night waiting for authorities om the Netherlands to respond to their request

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night, Dueñas was worried about having

terrified him. He was ready to go to a camp

in the Netherlands where he was likely to

LGBT Cubans seek asylum in the Netherlands while independent activists are harassed and detained

Pedro de la Hoz

Dueñas on Sunday told the Washington Blade during a WhatsApp interview from Schiphol Airport that Cuban authorities began to target him because of the Babel Sociocultural Project's efforts to raise awareness of police mistreatment of LGBT people in the city of Cárdenas, which is roughly 100 miles east of Havana on the island's northern coast. Dueñas also said the government "considered" the same-sex marriage campaign that he and other advocates launched "a big mistake." "It's not about the project." he told the

Blade, "It's about me," Dueñas said he and his cousin are currently with more than half a dozen other

LGBT Cubans who flew from Havana to Amsterdam last week. They will remain at access to food and a restroom to take a shower. The thought of getting deported Schiphol Airport until Dutch authorities back to Cuba and ending up in a prison interview them and begin to process their asylum requests run into migrants from Venezuela and

Havana, told the Blade on WhatsApp from Havana and the area also among the largest minorities requesting asylum in the Schiphol Airport that Cuban police European Union harassed her and other trans women. She Dueñas believes his work in support of the and another trans woman in Dueñas' group Nosotros Tambien Amamos, or We Also with whom the Blade spoke said authorities prevent them and others from gathering in parks and other public places because they think they are sex workers.

I feel very good here," said Adriana.

While at the Amsterdam airport Monday







This is my work inspired by Alexandra Bell. This has to do with Cuban propaganda and the media in the country I grew up

When A Budget Motel Is 'Home,' There's Little Room For Childhood

I grew up next to a motel full of children that were displaced and living in situations like this and I didn't think about it too much until it was reintroduced to me. It brought a sense of nostalgia and anger.



Feeding the Street: The Untold Story of Women Vendors in New York



I feel helpless when I see these women. I see my mon and my grandmother searching for a way to sustain our family.

Monuments

Ultimately, I could've found a monument about any topic. But somehow one about immigrants stumbled into my hands. I work the hardest and speak the most when I'm most passionate. And I find that to be when it is related to my people.



Takeaway

- Choose words wisely and understand the power of time and language
- We began with defining identity and home and that opened a door to self-reflection and finding what I am truly passionate about
- I care about finding out more about myself. We seek to find out so much about the world but there is so much to discover within ourselves still
- Ultimately, I thought I didn't like politics yet I have found myself being constantly attracted to and passionate about the treatment of minorities
- Time has elapsed and changed with the ease of media, but reflecting will always be the most powerful tool to keep us grounded.